



Agility trials are an important part of the agility community. Exhibitors enjoy the camaraderie, friends, practicing new skills, and earning titles. Due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic, we have had to change many things in our daily lives, the same is true for agility. We have been planning, evaluating, and researching ways to safely hold agility trials. We will be complying with the Connecticut Governor's guidelines for opening the state and for gatherings. If trials cannot be held, we will notify all competitors by email before the closing and all checks received will be shredded.

TMAC wants exhibitors, workers, and judges to be in a safe environment. As a result, there will be changes to our trial format and we will be imposing new guidelines and restrictions.

1. The entry limit has changed to a limit of 45 handlers per trial. There will be 2 trials per day to maximize participation, while maintaining a safe environment.
2. **Crating:** Crating in Little Paws will be extremely limited to ensure safe distancing. There will be space available for outdoor crating (bring your own shade); however, best practice is to work from your car. Un-entered dogs will not be allowed in Little Paws crating area. Only 5 people will be allowed in the building at a time for set-up. **All items must be removed from Little Paws when you leave after your runs on Saturday; even if you are running both days! The building will be sanitized overnight.**
3. Additional parking will be available. See Trial Confirmation for details.
4. Anyone entering either building will need to wear a mask which will include the judge, all workers and ring crew. Exhibitors do not have to wear a mask when they run, but will be required to put their mask on before and after their run.
5. Exhibitors will maintain six-foot social distancing inside and outside the building. Please be respectful of your fellow exhibitors.
7. There will be no seating/viewing area and no chairs will be allowed in the main building.
8. A gate steward will be at the door directing you as to when to enter the building for walk-thrus and running your dog. A worker will open the entrance and exit gates for your run.
9. Only 3 or less exhibitors will be allowed in the building while they are in que for their runs. TMAC will provide additional shade outside for waiting and have audio set up so you can hear who is on deck.
10. Handlers may place their leash in their pocket or wear them while running the course. If handlers elect to drop their leash as the start, a leash runner will use a grabber to pick up and transport the leash, sanitizing after each dog.

11. Results will be posted outside the building. In addition, results will be emailed to the exhibitors following the trial weekend.
12. Course maps will be posted in multiple locations in and outside the building for exhibitors to take pictures. There will be paper course maps for those that choose, but please do not share!
13. There will not be food or beverages at the trial. Competitors will need to bring their own food and drinks.
14. Please do not bring MACH cakes or desserts to share with exhibitors.
15. Ribbons will not be self-serve. A worker will place stickers on them and have them available at a table outside of the building.
16. There will be plenty of soap and paper towels. Please wash your hands frequently. There will also be single use gloves available provided by TMAC. We will have a limited amount of hand sanitizer, therefore, we recommend you bring your own, as well as your own mask.
17. **ONLY** dogs who are entered in this trial will be measured; dogs will be measured by the VMO only. Please teach your dog to stand on a table with someone sitting by them to make it easy on dogs and VMO. If a dog is not compliant, they might not get measured for it would be impossible for the handler and the VMO to be 6 feet apart with a dog that is unsure about the process.
18. Briefings will be outside of the building, there will be no obsessive walk-throughs and walk-throughs will be limited to approximately 15 handlers.
19. Agility equipment that is touched, restrooms, doors, tables, chairs, etc. will be cleaned/sanitized throughout the day.
20. There will be ONE-WAY doors for both Little Paws and the Main Building, to help with the flow of traffic and keeping distance.

***\*\*By entering this trial, I agree to comply with all guidelines set in place by TMAC, Paws N Effect, the CDC, and federal, state, and local governments. I understand that I am voluntarily participating in this event entirely at my own risk and accept sole responsibility for my own health and safety.***

If you are entering this trial, be sure you are comfortable with our new guidelines and are willing to comply with social distancing and wearing a mask. Exhibitors not complying with these guidelines may be excused from the trial.

Sincerely,

TMAC Board of Directors

Robert Young, Trial Chair

Lisa Loomis, Trial Co-Chair

TMAC Covid Planning Committee